

T Transportation Committee

Meeting date: February 26, 2007

For Council meeting March 28, 2007

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date:	February 13, 2007
Subject:	Authorization to purchase Sparkle Wash property, Project 62312
District(s), Member(s):	All
Policy/Legal Reference:	Minnesota Statutes Sections 473.129 & 473.405
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Brian Lamb, General Manager, Metro Transit 612-349-7510 Mark Fuhrmann, Deputy General Manager 612-349-7513 Tom Thorstenson, Director Engineering and Construction 612-349-7689
Division/Department:	Metro Transit/Engineering and Construction

Proposed Action/Motion

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to acquire fee title to the property at 1000 Lyndale Avenue North in Minneapolis (otherwise known as the Sparkle Wash property) for a purchase price of \$820,000.

Issue(s)

- Council approval is required for the purchase of property.

Overview and Funding

In 2005, the Council approved the acquisition of the Ragstock property located adjacent to the Heywood Facility for the site of a future, additional bus garage as scheduled in the 2007-2012 CIP. The Sparkle Wash property is currently for sale and is immediately adjacent to the Ragstock property. Acquisition of this 0.28 acre parcel allows the vacation of adjacent streets and alleys that total another 0.9 acres for a total usable acquisition of about 1.3 acres. The acquisition will also:

- Provide greater security by limiting public access on the west side of the future garage,
- Enable access to 7th Street that would not otherwise be available,
- Allow substantial design flexibility in the new bus garage planned for the Ragstock site,
- Provide flexibility for bus movement and circulation through/around the site,
- Provide interim space for shelter maintenance activities.

In September 2006, the owner of Sparkle Wash property contacted staff indicating that he would be selling his property. The proposal purchase price of \$820,000 is consistent with the appraisal. Staff proposes to follow FTA guidelines to ensure the funds used for this acquisition will qualify for local share offset, as was the case with the Ragstock acquisition.

Funding is available within Project Number 62312.